

Maryland State Board of Victim Services
Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
100 Community Place, 1st Floor, Conference Room, Side B
Crownsville, MD 21032
Wednesday, April 24, 2019
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Participating Members:

Wes Adams, Esq.
Bonnie Ariano
Anne Bean
Barbara Darley for V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.
Lou Gieszl
Theresa Hiegel
Molly Knipe
Joe Riley, Esq.
Jill Ritter
Alonzo Robertson, Esq.
Lisa Spicknall
Jeanne Yeager

Guests:

Stephanie Erdice, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Brittany Luzader, Secretary of State Address Confidentiality Program
Reena Shah, Maryland Access to Justice Commission

Staff:

Rebecca Allyn, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Heather Amador, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Kelly Gorman, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

II. GOCCP Updates

Ms. Darley informed the Board that the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (the Office) will be looking into the Victim Information Notification Everyday (VINE) and VINE Protective Order (VPO) systems. A priority of the Victim Services Unit at the Office is to ensure the resources in the State meet the needs of victims. Feedback from the Council on either of the systems is encouraged.

Ms. Darley also informed the Board that the Office is examining restitution in Maryland. The Office is currently researching restitution in other states, gathering statistical data on restitution in Maryland, and plans to send out surveys to the community.

Ms. Darley provided updates on recent legislation that will affect the Office and would be of interest to Board members.

- *SB 61 Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Electronic Filing* - Allows for electronic filing for Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) claims.
- *HB 968/SB 672 CICB Cap Expansions* - This bill raises the caps on recovery for grants offered by CICB.
- *HB 1007/SB 739 Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Expansion* - The goal of this bill is to ensure that every child in the State has access to a CAC. The level of care delivered at the CAC must meet national accreditation standards. GOCCP shall contract with a 501(c)(3) to establish a Maryland statewide Organization for CACs.
- *HB 1249/SB 657 Establishment of nPEP Pilot Program* - This bill creates a pilot program for nonoccupational postexposure prophylaxis (nPEP) medication disbursement for victims of alleged rape or alleged sexual assault.
- *HB 1096/SB 767 SAEK Analysis* - Requires Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK) transferred to forensic labs to be tested within 30 days and creates a victim consent requirement.
- *HB 1268/SB 569 Rape Kit Testing Grant Establishment* - This bill establishes a fund for SAEK forensic lab testing, both the current backlog and in the future. GOCCP would administer the fund.
- *HB 827/SB 688 Safe Harbor Bill* - Human Trafficking - This bill creates Safe Harbor Regional Navigator Grant Program. If a law enforcement officer has reason to believe that a child who has been detained is a victim of sex trafficking, the officer shall notify any appropriate Regional Navigator of the jurisdiction where the child was taken into custody.
- *SB6 22 Firearms Study* - Requires GOCCP to conduct a firearms study administered with the Maryland State Police (MSP).

III. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda contained the January 2019 Board meeting minutes and the Governor's Family Violence Council updates. Ms. Yeager made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the consent agenda was approved.

IV. The Importance of Legal Services for Victims of Crime

Reena Shah, with the Maryland Access to Justice Commission, provided members with a presentation on the importance of legal services for victims of crime, specifically civil legal services. The mission of the Commission is to increase awareness of the value of civil legal aid for victims of crime.

V. 2019 Crime Victims' Rights Events Debrief

During National Crime Victims' Rights Week, the 30th Annual Maryland Statewide Memorial Services for Crime Victims were held on Sunday, April 7 and the 4th Annual Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference was held on Thursday, April 11. The Anne Arundel, Caroline, Carroll, and St. Mary's County State's Attorney Offices hosted the four regional memorial services. All services were well attended. One suggestion was to have a GOCCP table at each service to field any questions about the registration form or name list. The Annual Crime

Victims' Rights Conference was held at the University of Maryland, College Park. About 300 participants attended. Ms. Allyn provided results from the conference evaluation which indicated that attendees enjoyed the diverse workshop topics and felt the registration process operated smoothly. Many suggestions for workshop topics were provided which will guide the agenda for next year's conference.

VI. Victim Response to Mass Violence Subcommittee Update

Ms. Allyn informed members that the Subcommittee is working with the Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Workgroup (AAIWG) staffed by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to assist with developing a statewide response plan. The Subcommittee recently submitted victim-centered questions to include in an AAIWG survey. The AAIWG's goal is to have a draft plan by the end of the year and a final version next spring. Ms. Allyn attends monthly AAIWG meetings to represent the Subcommittee and ensure that victim response is included in the overall response plan. The Subcommittee will meet after the Board meeting to discuss protocols for family assistance centers.

VII. DNA Notification Request Form - Survey Discussion

Mr. Robertson informed members of feedback received in regard to the [DNA Notification Form](#), located on the Office's website. The DNA Notification Form reflects the right for victims to receive information about the use of DNA evidence. One of the concerns is that law enforcement are not using the form and don't know where to send it once completed. Mr. Robertson also discussed that victims do not know how to complete the form to where to send it as well. Mr. Robertson suggested the Board creates a survey to gather community feedback on the form and encouraged members to spread awareness about the form and how to complete it.

VIII. Old/New Business

Ms. Allyn informed members that this summer the Office will be reviewing the *Crime Victims and Witnesses: Your Rights and Services* and the *Your Rights as a Victim in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Process* brochures for any updates. Ms. Allyn prints brochures about every 6 months to distribute to law enforcement agencies and State's Attorneys Offices.

Ms. Allyn informed members that there are several initiatives related to the Board's Strategic Plan that have resurfaced. Maryland 211 has hired a new Director. In order for new programs to be included in Maryland 211's directory, programs are required to submit a request to Maryland 211. This request can be found on the Maryland 211 [website](#). There is a concern that Maryland 211 only permits programs to enter one address, which is a barrier to programs with multiple locations and serve multiple jurisdictions. Another aspect of the Strategic Plan was to focus on restitution in the state of Maryland. The Office has since hired Heather Amador, Program and Policy Administrator of Victim Services, to research restitution in Maryland. The Board will be used as a resource to aid Ms. Amador's work. Ms. Allyn also mentioned that the Board was previously interested in compiling a list of victim service training opportunities and at this time the Board will not move forward with this due to the constant updates that would be needed.

Ms. Knipe informed members about the YWCA's Collective Impact Initiative. The Initiative is currently collecting feedback through 1:1 interviews and working on drafting preliminary implementation strategies. The project is focused on improving the continuum of care available

to survivors. Ms. Knipe emphasized that the purpose of this initiative is not to identify where funding should go but rather to analyze what systems and services are in place in the state of Maryland.

Ms. Allyn thanked members for reviewing the Maryland Victims of Crime Fund (MVOC) and Legal Services for Crime Victims Fund (LSCV) grant applications for FY 2020. Letters of intent were sent to grant recipients in March 2019.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Adams made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Riley seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, July 24, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Main Conference Room, 1st Floor - Side B
100 Community Place
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